

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Group Art Unit: 3624

Perry L. Johnson

Examiner: Luis F. Santiago

Serial No.: 10/500,179

Filed: December 8, 2004

For: METHOD FOR COMPLIANCE OF STANDARDS REGISTRAR
WITH ACCREDITATION AGENCY REQUIREMENTS

Attorney Docket No.: PJI 0104 PUSA

REPLY TO EXAMINER'S ANSWER

Mail Stop Appeal Brief - Patents
Commissioner for Patents
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Examiner's Answer mailed April 13, 2011, please consider the following remarks.

Remarks

With regard to Appellant's argument that Aycock does not receive client information including an industry code identifying a type of industry of a product or service provided by a client, see, Appeal Brief, pp. 3-4, the Examiner cites Aycock's "supplier interface," "access code," and "executable code," see, Examiner's Answer, p. 12. Appellant maintains that Aycock's supplier interface that permits a supplier to receive information from and provide information to a database is not the claimed industry code, and that the mere mention of the word "code" in Aycock does not somehow disclose the limitation at issue.

With regard to Appellant's argument that Aycock does not receive client information including a type of quality audit, see, Appeal Brief, pp. 4-5, the Examiner cites to various sections of Aycock that include the terms "audit," "evaluation," and "supplier quality process," see, Examiner's answer, pp. 12-13. These sections, however, merely suggest that an audit is performed at a supplier site. Performing an audit does not teach receiving client information including a type of quality audit.

Appellant maintains that the Examiner cannot carry his initial burden of establishing a *prima facie* case of obviousness merely through the repeated use of conclusory and unsupported reasoning—especially when trying to justify the combination of numerous references. The Examiner appears to not have responded to this argument in his Answer.

Please charge any fees or credit any overpayments as a result of the filing of this paper to our Deposit Account No. 02-3978.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: May 31, 2011

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